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*Admitted only in Virginia
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Federal Agencies

September 17, 2003

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Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Art Unit 1634

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 09/608,066; Filed: June 30, 2000
For: **Compositions and Methods for Enhanced Sensitivity and
Specificity of Nucleic Acid Synthesis**
Inventors: Astatke *et al.*
Our Ref: 0942.4990001/RWE/BJD

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. PTO Fee Transmittal (PTO/SB/17);
2. Credit Card Payment Form (PTO-2038) in the amount of \$2200.00 to cover the appropriate fees;
3. Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a);
4. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal;
5. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111; and
6. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents
September 17, 2003
Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

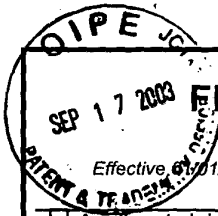


Brian J. Del Buono
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 42,473

BJD/nef
Enclosures

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SKGF Rev. 2/15/02 dcw; 4/18/03 svb

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FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2003

Effective 9/1/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$) 2200.00

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/608,066
Filing Date	June 30, 2000
First Named Inventor	ASTATKE
Examiner Name	Taylor, J.E.
Art Unit	1634
Attorney Docket No.	0942.4990001/RWE/BJD

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)

Check Credit card Money Order Other** None
 ** Charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayments in the fees or fee calculations of Parts 1, 2 and 3 below to Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Deposit Account
 Deposit Account Number 19-0036
 Deposit Account Name: Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox P.L.L.C.

The Commissioner is authorized to: (check all that apply)

- Charge fee(s) indicated below Credit any over payments
- Charge any additional fee(s) during the pendency of this application
- Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee to the above-identified deposit account.

FEE CALCULATION (continued)

3. ADDITIONAL FEES

Large Entity Small Entity

Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1051	130	2051	65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
1502	50	2052	25	Surcharge-late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
1053	130	1053	130	Non-English specification	
1812	2,520	1812	2,520	For filing a request for ex parte reexamination	
1804	920*	1804	920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
1805	1,840*	1805	1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
1251	110	2251	55	Extension for reply within first month	
1252	410	2252	205	Extension for reply within second month	
1253	930	2253	465	Extension for reply within third month	
1254	1,450	2254	725	Extension for reply within fourth month	1450.00
1255	1,970	2255	985	Extension for reply within fifth month	
1401	320	2401	160	Notice of Appeal	
1402	320	2402	160	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
1403	280	2403	140	Request for oral hearing	
1451	1,510	1451	1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
1452	110	2452	55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
1453	1,300	2453	650	Petition to revive - unintentional	
1501	1,300	2501	650	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
1502	470	2502	235	Design issue fee	
1503	630	2503	315	Plant issue fee	
1460	130	1460	130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
1807	50	1807	50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)	
1806	180	1806	180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
8021	40	8021	40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
1809	750	2809	375	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))	
1810	750	2810	375	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b))	
1801	750	2801	375	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	750.00
1802	900	1802	900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	
Other fee (specify) _____					
* Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid					
SUBTOTAL (3) (\$) 2200.00					

FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING FEE

Large Entity Small Entity

Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1001	750	2001	375	Utility filing fee	
1002	330	2002	165	Design filing fee	
1003	520	2003	260	Plant filing fee	
1004	750	2004	375	Reissue filing fee	
1105	160	2005	80	Provisional filing fee	

SUBTOTAL (1) (\$) _____

2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE

	Extra	Fee from below	Fee Paid
Total Claims _____ - 20** =	_____ X	_____	_____
Indep. Claims _____ - 3** =	_____ X	_____	_____
Multiple Dependent _____	_____	_____	_____

Large Entity Small Entity

Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1202	18	2202	9	Claims in excess of 20	
1201	84	2201	42	Independent claims in excess of 3	
1203	280	2203	140	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid	
1204	84	2204	42	**Reissue independent claims over original patent	
1205	18	2205	9	**Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent	

SUBTOTAL (2) (\$) _____

**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissue, see above

SUBMITTED BY

Complete (if applicable)

Name (Print/Type)	Brian J. Del Buono	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	42,473	Telephone	202-371-2600
Signature				Date	Sept. 17 2003

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.17 and 1.27. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.